

CLAIMS:

1. A security lock for a closure having a locking member, said lock comprising:

- (a) a case;
- 5 (b) an electronic timepiece in said case having a display for displaying the time and date and having a power circuit;
- (c) a closure associated with said case having an open position and a locked position in which said closure is engaged in said case;
- (d) means for interrupting said power circuit engaged by said closure member  
10 when said closure is in said locked position thereby providing a visual indication of the time and date on which said lock was secured; and
- (e) means for permanently maintaining said closure in a closed position.

2. The security lock of Claim 1 wherein said case and closure comprise a padlock-type lock  
15 and said closure is a U-shaped shackle having an end engageable in a bore in said case.

3. The security lock of Claim 1 wherein said case is fabricated for a tamper-resistant material.

20 4. The security lock of Claim 1 wherein said display is protected by a transparent tamper-resistant material.

5. The security lock of Claim 1 wherein said case is provided with a unique identification indicia.

6. The security lock of Claim 2 wherein said means for interrupting said power circuit comprises a switch located in said bore and engageable by said shackle in a locked position.

7. The security lock of Claim 1 wherein said means for permanently maintaining said lock in a closed position comprises latch means engageable with said closure.

8. A method of providing security for an area having an access member comprising:

(a) locking said access member with a security lock having indicator means which is interrupted at the time of locking, said indicator means providing an indication of both the date and time of locking;

(b) recording said indication; and

(c) checking said indicator means at the time access member is to be opened in order to detect possible tampering.

9. The method of Claim 8 wherein said security lock is provided with a unique identification code which is also recorded at the time of locking.

10. The method of Claim 8 wherein said area is selected from the group consisting of warehouses, sea containers, truck trailers and storage areas.

11. The method of Claim 8 wherein said security lock includes an electronic timepiece and a shackle.